

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Appellant(s):	David R. Payne, Gerald A. Stangl, Norman E. Stevens, and Michael F. Gard	Group No.: 3671
Serial No.:	10/617,975	Examiner: Raymond W. Addie Att'y Dkt. No. 2380-561
Filed:	July 12, 2003	Customer No.: 28839
For:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY DRILLING AND BACKREAMING A HORIZONTAL BORE UNDERGROUND	Confirmation No.: 4897 Appeal No.: 2009-014218

**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**STATUS INQUIRY**

More than *three years* have passed since the filing of the Appellant's Brief in the above-referenced application on *December 28, 2007*. The last communication received from the Office since the time of filing the Appellant's Brief is the Docketing Notice mailed August 25, 2009.

Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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